

Application Serial No: 10/627,103
In reply to Office Action of 2 June 2004

Attorney Docket No. 82858

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended): An asymmetric ~~multilane~~ multiline towed array for towing by a tow platform comprising:

a support cable having a first end for connection to the tow platform and an opposing distal end, said support cable including both mechanical and signal components;

at least one array connected to said mechanical and signal components of said support cable; and

a depressor connected to the distal end of said support cable for spreading said support cable in a substantially lateral direction from one side of the tow platform;

wherein the signal component of said support cable includes at least one array connector for communications connection with said array.

2. (Original): The system according to claim 1 wherein said support cable is streamlined in shape to include a rounded

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leading nose portion and a tapered tail portion trailing the nose portion.

3. (Original): The system according to claim 1 wherein the mechanical component of said support cable includes a load bearing cable housed therein along an entire length thereof for providing a load bearing mechanical connection between said support cable and said depressor.

4. (Original): The system according to claim 2 wherein the mechanical component of said support cable includes a load bearing cable housed therein along an entire length thereof for providing a load bearing mechanical connection between said support cable and said depressor.

5. (Canceled).

6. (Original): The system according to claim 4 further comprising a casing formed in a streamlined shape around said support cable.

7. (Canceled).

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8. (Currently amended): The system according to claim 7 1 wherein said support cable is streamlined in shape to include a rounded leading nose portion and a tapered tail portion trailing the nose portion and wherein at least one array connector is in the tail portion of said support cable.

9. (Original): The system according to claim 1 further comprising a casing formed in a streamlined shape around said support cable.

10. (Original): The system according to claim 2 wherein said load bearing cable is positioned at the nose portion of said support cable.

11. (Currently amended): An asymmetric multiline towed array system for towing by a tow platform comprising:

a single support cable having a first end for connection to the tow platform and an opposing distal end, said single support cable including both mechanical and signal components;

a plurality of array lines connected to said mechanical and signal components of said single support cable; and

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a single depressor connected to the distal end of said single support cable for spreading said single support cable in a substantially lateral direction from one side of the tow platform;

wherein the signal component of said single support cable includes at least one array connector for communications connection with each said array line.

12. (Original): The system according to claim 11 wherein said single support cable is streamlined in shape to include a rounded leading nose portion and a tapered tail portion trailing the nose portion.

13. (Original): The system according to claim 11 wherein the mechanical component of said single support cable includes a load bearing cable housed therein along an entire length thereof for providing a load bearing mechanical connection between said single support cable and said single depressor.

14. (Original): The system according to claim 12 wherein the mechanical component of said single support cable includes a load bearing cable housed therein along an entire length thereof

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for providing a load bearing mechanical connection between said single support cable and said single depressor.

15. (Canceled).

16. (Original): The system according to claim 11 further comprising a casing formed in a streamlined shape around said single support cable.

17. (Original): The system according to claim 12 wherein said load bearing cable is positioned at the nose portion of said single support cable.

18. (Currently amended): The system according to claim ~~15~~ 11 wherein said single support cable is streamlined in shape to include a rounded leading nose portion and a tapered tail portion trailing the nose portion and wherein at least one of said array connectors is in the tail portion of said single support cable.

19. (Canceled).